

# FIRST AID PLAN FOR

# Anaphylaxis



Anaphylaxis is the most severe type of allergic reaction and should always be treated as a medical emergency. Anaphylaxis requires immediate treatment with adrenaline (epinephrine). If treatment with adrenaline is delayed, this can result in fatal anaphylaxis.

# How to give adrenaline (epinephrine) devices

# **EpiPen®**



Form fist around EpiPen® and PULL OFF BLUE SAFETY **RELEASE** 



Hold leg still and PLACE ORANGE END against outer mid-thigh (with or without clothing)



PUSH DOWN HARD until a click is heard or felt and hold in place for 3 seconds REMOVE EpiPen®

EpiPen® Jr (150 mcg) is for children 7.5-20kg

EpiPen® (300 mcg) is for children over 20kg and adults

# **Anapen®**



PULL OFF BLACK **NEEDLE SHIELD** 



PULL OFF GREY SAFETY CAP from red button



PLACE NEEDLE END FIRMLY against outer mid-thigh at 90° angle (with or without clothing)



PRESS RED BUTTON so it clicks and hold for 3 seconds. REMOVE Anapen®

Anapen® 500 is for children and adults over 50kg

### MILD TO MODERATE ALLERGIC REACTIONS

#### **SIGNS**

- Swelling of lips, face, eyes
- Hives or welts
- Tingling mouth
- Abdominal pain, vomiting these are signs of anaphylaxis for insect allergy

Mild to moderate allergic reactions may not always occur before anaphylaxis

#### **ACTIONS**

- Stay with person, call for help
- Locate adrenaline device
- Phone family/emergency contact
- Insect allergy flick out sting if visible
- Tick allergy seek medical help or freeze tick and let it drop off

# SIGNS OF ANAPHYLAXIS (SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTIONS)

## Watch for ANY ONE of the following signs:

- Difficult or noisy breathing
- Swelling of tongue
- Swelling or tightness in throat
- Wheeze or persistent cough
- Difficulty talking or hoarse voice
- Persistent dizziness or collapse
- Pale and floppy (young children)

# **ACTIONS FOR ANAPHYLAXIS**

#### 1 LAY PERSON FLAT - do NOT allow them to stand or walk

- If unconscious or pregnant, place in recovery position on left side if pregnant
- If breathing is difficult allow them to sit with legs outstretched
- · Hold young children flat, not upright









#### **2 GIVE ADRENALINE DEVICE**

- 3 Phone ambulance 000 (AU) or 111 (NZ)
- 4 Phone family/emergency contact
- 5 Further adrenaline may be given if no response after 5 minutes
- 6 Transfer person to hospital for at least 4 hours of observation

### IF IN DOUBT GIVE ADRENALINE DEVICE

Commence CPR at any time if person is unresponsive and not breathing normally

ALWAYS give adrenaline device FIRST if someone has SEVERE AND SUDDEN BREATHING DIFFICULTY (including wheeze, persistent cough or hoarse voice), even if there are no skin symptoms. THEN SEEK MEDICAL HELP.

If adrenaline is accidentally injected, phone your local poisons information centre. Continue to follow this action plan for the person with the allergic reaction.